

Jessie White

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**From:** Jim Scholl [jim\_scholl@dot.state.ak.us]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 14, 2007 8:22 AM  
**To:** 'Jessie White'  
**Subject:** FW: Project number 11745, Auke Bay FVF support facility

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
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Jesse, Please log this in as a comment. Thanks!

-----Original Message-----

**From:** wayne wilson [mailto:wayne@semicro.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 12, 2007 9:20 PM  
**To:** DOT\_STIP@dot.state.ak.us  
**Cc:** leo\_vonscheben@dot.state.ak.us; Ben Goldrich; sarah\_palin@gov.state.ak.us;  
sean\_parnell@gov.state.ak.us; senator\_kim\_elton@legis.state.ak.us;  
representative\_beth\_kertula@legis.state.ak.us  
**Subject:** Project number 11745, Auke Bay FVF support facility

Hello,

This is a letter in support of the Auke Bay facility for the FVF Fairweather, this letter was written to address the lack of action in the STIP.

My name is Wayne Wilson, I am an employee for the Department of Transportation, Alaska Marine Highway Division. I am employed as a First Assistant Engineer onboard the Fast Vehicle Ferry (FVF) Fairweather. We have been making due with working out of what amounts to a garage with barely enough room to park the ships service truck. A neighboring barge that is privately owned has been contracted, at considerable expense, to provide space for the necessary equipment and supplies needed to sustain the operation of this vessel.

The FVF Fairweather Support Facility should have been built during the last administration but was not, primarily due to lack of foresight and understanding by Robin Taylor and Mike Barton. This vessel, according to the High Speed Craft Code, that she operates under, requires a maintenance facility to be able to provide for the needs of the vessel. We are right on the edge of that definition folks! The facility we have now was supposed to be a temporary one during the construction of the ships main facility, that was three years ago. There is no running water, no toilet, no room, no space to carry needed spares in stock and no money in the STIP to fix the problem. It IS a problem, it has a number assigned to it already by the STIP and it needs to be done.

The permanent facility was built in Cordova for the Chenega a full year after the Fairweather went into service! I have personally worked out of that shop facility when I was stationed up there for six weeks.

It is as the facility for the Fairweather was designed to be. The Auke Bay support facility was on the STIP. The Cordova facility was a copy of the shop that was to be built in Auke Bay. The money was removed from the STIP for this project by the last administration, The public, my fellow shipmates and I want to see it put back on the fast track to provide the level of service to the ship that it requires, both by code and by necessity to support safe and efficient transport of Alaska's most important possession, it's people.

In closing, PLEASE put this important project back into the current STIP avoiding costly delays, and more importantly, delayed maintenance due to lack of a facility capable of supporting the vessel.

Respectfully,

Wayne Wilson  
1 A/E  
FVF Fairweather  
DOT/PF/AMHS  
State Of Alaska